

permanent foundations of science, and of such, for its region and problem, the present work is a treasury.

In this as in others of his writings Professor Nichols shows generous appreciation of earlier ecological investigation, which he does not insist upon judging by present day standards. He corrects mistakes on the merits of the evidence, and is wholly above that form of weakness which consists in using the errors of others as a foil to show forth by implication one's own cleverness.

Any criticism of the paper would center in two minor points. The reproduction of the illustrations is in many cases not wholly adequate to the obvious value of the originals. This is a common fault in our ecological publications, and we should insist upon better results. Again, the system of ecological nomenclature, while perfectly logical, is, to the reviewer at least, lacking in clear definition and therefore somewhat confusing in use. An ideal nomenclature would measure up in differentiation to the distinctness of the groups themselves.—W. F. GANONG, Smith College.

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A FLORA OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.—A reliable local flora is, in the present stage of knowledge of the distribution of plants in North America, always most welcome. Very many areas are as yet not blessed with such detailed publications and every addition to the list of carefully prepared reference works is to be commended. Recently, we have received a copy of the "Flora of Northeastern Pennsylvania" by Alfred Twining, published by the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science and Art of Scranton, Pennsylvania. The work bears such evidence of painstaking care in securing accurate verification of the most technical groups of plants that a copy should be in the hands of everyone who is specially interested in working out detailed ranges. The region covered is only 50 to 100 miles west of southwestern New England and the botanists, particularly of Connecticut and western Massachusetts, will be specially interested in it. —M. L. F.

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